

EX PARTE MAIL ROOM FILED

RECORDED
APR 21 2003
FCC - MAIL ROOM

April 12, 2003

14430 N. 19th Ave. #60
Phoenix, AZ 85023

02-277

Confirmed

ORIGINAL

APR 21 2003

Distribution Center

445 12th St. SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Copps:

I am opposed to F.C.C. deregulation of media ownership limits. A media oligopoly or monopoly has no benefit for the people. Longer and longer ad slots, more product placements, more homogenized content and programming, and less local news coverage have all resulted from the free-wheeling media mergers of the past decade (CBS-Viacom, Disney-ABC, AOL-TimeWarner-Turner Broadcasting, etc.). The benefits for the media conglomerates are obvious: a fatter bottom line, and a competition-free forum for which to spew forth a corporate agenda. Existing FCC imposed media limits are the only thing that have kept gluttonous media moguls like Rupert Murdoch and Michael Eisner from gobbling up more outlets as if they were twinkies.

I hope that you engage the Commission in a dialogue regarding media concentration and the effect that it will have on our democracy. Should the FCC lift all media ownership limits, it would be very likely that the handful of media conglomerates would intertwine even further into a clenched fist. That clenched fist would choke out and suffocate the information airway of so many. Does it sound Orwellian? Shades of Hitler and his Third Reich? You bet. When one individual owns all of the television, newspaper, and radio outlets in one market, it will be too late. There's no way to put the toothpaste back in that tube.

As a special education teacher, I find it necessary to expose my students to a diverse array of books, videotapes, and other materials that shed light on the personal and cultural dynamics that comprise our local community. The thought of having a media concentrated into the hands of a few elite members of society leads me to believe that this diversity in culture and opinions would be missing outside my classroom walls. As my students grow older and wiser and assimilate into the greater community outside of the classroom, it would be nice to know that a world awaits them in which their differences and unique abilities will be welcomed.

Kind regards,

Mike Stetter

Mike Stetter

[Signature]



100-100000

F.C.C.
445 12th St. SW
Washington, DC 20554

Attn: Michael Capps